

CLAIMS

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

-1-

5 A doorbeam comprising:

a deformable web closed upon itself into a tube having a cross section including a first area and a second area having different thicknesses.

-2-

10 The doorbeam of claim 1 wherein said deformable web includes opposing lateral edges, said lateral edges joined on said tube forming a seam.

-3-

The doorbeam of claim 2 wherein said seam is a weld.

-4-

15 The doorbeam of claim 1 wherein said tube comprises a center portion and attachment portions, said center portion having said closed configuration with said first thickness and said second thickness.

-5-

A tubular object comprising:

20 a deformable web closed on itself to form a tube including first and second circumferential areas having different thicknesses.

-6-

The tubular object of claim 5 wherein said deformable web includes lateral edges, said lateral edges being joined on said tube.

-7-

5 The tubular object of claim 6 wherein said joined lateral edges are welded.

-8-

The tubular object of claim 5 wherein said deformable web includes a base and at least one strip joined to said base, said base forming said first thickness, said base and said metal strip forming said second thickness.

10 -9-

A doorbeam comprising:

a tube including a center section and end portions, said center section being closed upon itself and having a cross section including a first circumferential area and a second circumferential area having different thicknesses, said tube formed from a deformable web
15 having opposing lateral edges joined on said center section, said center section including opposing ends, said end portions being attached to said opposing ends

-10-

The doorbeam of claim 9 wherein said joined lateral edges are welded.

-11-

-11-

The doorbeam of claim 11 wherein said deformable web includes an elongate base and an elongate strip, said strip being narrower than said base, said base and said strip joined to form said second thickness, said base forming said first thickness.

5

-12-

A method of forming a doorbeam comprising the steps of:

advancing a continuous deformable web having areas of different thicknesses across its lateral extent; and

forming the web into a tube.

10

-13-

The method of claim 12 comprising the step of joining the edges of said continuous deformable web.

-14-

The method of claim 13 wherein said joining step comprises welding the opposing lateral edges together.

15

-15-

A method of forming a tubular object comprising the steps of:

advancing a deformable web having lateral edges and areas of different thicknesses between the lateral edges; and

20

forming the web into a generally tubular shape.

-12-

-16-

The method of claim 15 comprising the step of cutting said tube to length.

-17-

5 A method of claim 15 wherein said step of forming a generally tubular shape comprises the step of joining said lateral edges.

-18-

A method of forming a tubular object comprising the steps of:

advancing a deformable web having opposing lateral edges and areas of different thicknesses between the lateral edges;

10 cutting a blank from said deformable web; and

forming the blank into a generally tubular shape.

-19-

The method of claim 18 comprising the step of forming end brackets from said tubular shape, said end brackets being interconnected by a center section said end brackets and
15 said center section having different thicknesses.